

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-16 are pending in the application. No claims have been amended. Claims 17-40 have been added. Claims 1-16 have been canceled.

The Examiner rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 7, 8-10, 13 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sano et al (U.S. 7,158,679). The Examiner rejected claims 2, 5-6, 11 and 14-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sano et al in view of Navon et al (U.S. 7,085,422). The Examiner rejected claims 3 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sano et al in view of Huang et al (U.S. 7,076,108). The Examiner rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sano et al in view of Islam et al (U.S. 6,697,521). Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-16. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been obviated.

Applicant has added Claims 17-40. Claim 17 as added is as follows:

An image processing apparatus, comprising:
a segmenting unit to segment an image into one or more regions;
a generating unit to make the one or more regions segmented by the segmenting unit into components;
an encoding unit to encode the components made by the generating unit into code data using different compression methods; and
a combining unit to combine the code data encoded by the encoding unit into a codestream.

As set forth above, the present invention as claimed includes a segmenting unit to segment an image into one or more regions and a generating unit to make the one or more regions segmented by the segmenting unit into components. The segmenting and generating units are shown in Figure 6 and described on page 15, line 11-page 16, line 7.

The other added claims include substantially similar limitations. Applicants respectfully submit that these features are not shown in Sano and Navon. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submits that the present invention as claimed in Claims 17-40 are allowable.


Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections to the claims have been obviated by the amendments and the remarks and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested. Applicants submit that Claims 17-40 as added are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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